

**USE OF POLYMORPHISM OF THE SEROTONIN TRANSPORTER  
GENE PROMOTER AS A PREDICTOR OF DISEASE RISK**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

- 5           The present invention provides a method of screening subjects for disease risk.  
The method comprises determining the serotonin transporter gene promoter genotype  
of a subject. The serotonin transporter gene promoter genotype is used to indicate  
whether or not the subject is at increased risk of disease. The method is particularly  
adapted to screening for risk of disease in response to stress, and accordingly can be  
10       used to indicate interventions that manage stress, and hence reduce disease risk, in  
susceptible or higher-risk individuals.

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